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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/821,919	03/30/2001	Bradley J. Wessman	20010021.ORI	7672
36029	7590	07/14/2005	EXAMINER	
DOCKET CLERK, DM/ANSI P.O. BOX 802432 DALLAS, TX 75380			CAMPBELL, THOR S	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3742	

DATE MAILED: 07/14/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

SP

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/821,919	WESSMAN ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Thor S. Campbell	3742	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3, 6-9, 12-14, 16-18 and 20-23 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 4, 5, 10, 11, 15 and 19 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>1/24/05</u> | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____ |

2

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-2, 6-8, 12 and 21-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Saitou et al. (US 6451005 B).

Saitou et al. (US 6451005 B) discloses catheter body comprising an inner insulator and an outer insulator of similar synthetic resins and having a conductor wound and embedded therebetween, and that the inner and outer layer are fused together to form a unitary structure. Saitou does not explicitly disclose the use of a plurality of conductors, however, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the device of Saitou to include a plurality of conductors, since it has been held that mere duplication of the essential working parts of a device involves only routine skill in the art.

Claims 1-3, 6-9, 12-14, 16-18, 20-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nita et al. (US 5951539) in view of Saitou et al. (US 6451005).

Nita discloses a catheter body and method of making a catheter body comprising a inner insulator formed about a central mandrel, an outer insulating around the inner insulator and a conductor wound about the inner insulator, wherein the outer and inner insulators are fused by heat to each other. It is noted that the word "fuse" has been limited by applicant's disclosure and



Art Unit: 3742


arguments to require melting of the two layer to form a unitary layer. Saitou et al. discloses a catheter body having a reinforcing conductor embedded between layers, wherein the two layers are melted, "fused" together to form a unitary layer surrounding the embedded conductor. It would have been obvious to fuse the inner and outer layers of Nita together as taught by Saitou in order to create a unitary body having an integral polymer coil spring as taught by column 16, line 65.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-23 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection. It is the examiner's opinion that although Nita teaches the "polymeric spring" via the "islands" as pointed out by applicant, it does not preclude the fusing of the inner and outer layers as suggested by applicant. It is believed that the Nita device would function equally well with the inner and outer insulator "fused" together. It is further noted that applicant's addition that there be a plurality of conductors positioned between the inner and outer layer is not considered by the Examiner to be an improvement outside of the skill of one of ordinary skill in the art.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 4-5, 10-11, 15 and 19 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. It is noted that applicant has invoke 35 USC 112(6), in claims 10-11 by "means for spacing".



Art Unit: 3742

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thor S. Campbell whose telephone number is 571-272-4776. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 5:30AM-2:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robin Evans can be reached on 571-272-4777. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

THOR S. CAMPBELL
PRIMARY EXAMINER

